

June 15, 2001

Dear L.B.C.

I think the legislative Review method of annexation should be eliminated except for unpopulated areas immediately adjoining the municipality (contiguous.) It is an archaic procedure that disenfranchises the landowners from their property rights and their voting rights. Local government rights are basically eliminated under these procedures.

Also, there is a basic assumption in America, that any document produced by any governing body is reliable information - signed under oath. What protection do we have when this trust is broken?

These changes don't seem to do much besides limit public comments after we've assumed of a speaking "limitation" already. The premise of "best interests of the State" indicates a socialist leaning, while this is still America with a government of, for and by the people.

Also, as a respondent, it is important that witnesses not be too restricted. 'Expert' should mean anyone with relevant information, not merely a title or degrees in something.

I do support section 425 but you need some reinforcement to insure that public input is actually considered by the municipality, with some mutual consent.

Thank you for your considerations,
Sally Dodd Butters

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